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September 12, 2017

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Robert G. Taub  
Chairman  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket No. RM2017-12

Dear Chairman Taub:

The purpose of this letter is to share Easterseals concerns about the United States Postal Service (USPS) request for a technical adjustment that would redistribute postal costs from commercial to non-profit mailers. We understand that this adjustment would raise rates paid by non-profits to up 3.3 percent to 6.9 percent. This increase would be in addition to the 2 percent increase already in place for 2018.

Easterseals provides opportunities for people of all ages with a range of disabilities to achieve their full potential. With a network nationwide, we're proud to serve approximately 1.5 million people with disabilities and their families. From therapy and early intervention services, to camps and employment placement, we help children and adults with disabilities, caregivers, veterans and seniors be at their best as they live, learn, work and play. For every penny increase in the postal rate, Easterseals mail costs jump by more than \$500,000. These are funds that would otherwise go to help children and adults with disabilities get the services and supports they need to be independent and successful in life. We also are concerned that new costs will force us to curtail the volume of mail we send and that this reduction will only compound over time.

Every year, more people come to Easter Seals for help that is supported with charitable contributions. These contributions have been secured in large part through mail-based campaigns. The USPS is an essential partner in our meeting our mission. Please reject efforts to increase postal rates for non-profit mailers.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Beh Neas".

Katherine Beh Neas  
Executive Vice President, Public Affairs